

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2011
6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McHale

Flag Salute, Silent Prayer

Sunshine Law: The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the change in date, time and place of this public meeting in a notice sent to *The Record* and *The Ridgewood News*, filed with the Borough of Dumont, and posted on the Dumont website and the official bulletin board.

Roll Call:

Council members Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-present
Mayor McHale-present

Motion to accept agenda as presented: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Review prior to consideration for vote:

General Order of Business

#11-128 Budget Amendment #2

#11-129 Self-Examination of the 2011 Budget

#11-130 Adoption of the 2011 Municipal Budget

Councilman Freeman, Finance chairman, explained that when the 2011 budget process began, we were \$700,000 above the 2% cap which translated into \$289 per average home; at introduction we were \$422,000 above the cap, which equated to \$228 increase; now at the time of adoption we are \$194,000 below cap, an increase of \$113 per home. Included in this is two furlough days from each of the DPW employees who are under contract for a 31/2% increase in salary; borough employees are at a net increase of 0%. Adopting the budget tonight will avoid having to send out estimated tax bills, which would cost \$5,000.

Councilman Carrick stated that he did not feel it is fair that the DPW give two furlough days, the municipal employees have a net 0% increase and the Police give nothing back. He asked if there was a way to take out the DPW furlough days and the 0% and was told that a budget amendment would have to be done. The police were willing to have two police officers laid off rather than give anything up.

Councilman Caspare agreed that it is not fair but did not realize that if the budget is not adopted tonight, it would cost the taxpayers \$5,000 for estimated tax bills.

Councilman Freeman explained that there will be a \$1.1million increase, with no matching increase in revenue so as soon as this budget is adopted, the personnel, finance and shared service committees will have to meet to figure out how to come up with this amount. The only way he sees it can be filled is by staff reduction. The police comprise 33% of the budget.

Councilwoman Zamechansky stated for the record that it was really nice of the DPW, but the borough employees had no say.

Councilman Caspare asked if the finance committee discussed the issue he had brought up previously about fairness and money.

Councilman Manna explained that it was discussed; the mandate for the finance committee was to address the 2% cap and try to bring the tax figure as low as possible.

There was discussion about the police department twelve hour shift and some of the concerns.

Mayor McHale stated that we have to address the 2011 budget before we can move on the 2012 budget issues.

ORDINANCES

Second Reading

#1430 Amendment of Chapter 21-7, One Hour Parking on Grant Avenue

#1431 Bond Ordinance-Remediation and Improvements Needed at DPW Site-\$240,000

#1432 Bond Ordinance-Preliminary Costs of NJEIT Phase III-\$230,000

Administrator's Report

Mr. Perkins has been speaking to Cumberland Farms regarding reimbursement for the Gulf Station contamination. The Borough had billed them \$54,455.

Councilwoman Zamechansky asked about the lightning detectors and why they don't seem to be working correctly. Mr. Perkins will check.

Borough Attorney Paster's Report

The NJEIT Phase II property acquisitions are progressing.

The Borough will begin collecting rent next month from the lessee for the monopoly at the DPW.

Site plan approval application will be submitted to the Planning Board for final approval of the dental office at the corner of New Milford and Washington Avenues as part of the contract to sell the vacated roadway to that property owner. That would be additional unanticipated revenue.

Committee Reports

None

Motion to recess: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Mayor McHale called the meeting to order in Council Chambers.

Flag Salute, Silent Prayer

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Roll Call:

Council members Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-present

Mayor McHale-present

Motion to accept agenda as presented: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Hearing on 2011 Budget Amendment Resolution #11-111

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

No comment from the public.

Motion to close: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Zamechansky

All in favor.

General Order of Business

#11-128 Budget Amendment #2

Motion to adopt: Councilman Freeman

Second: Councilman Manna

Roll call vote: Councilmembers Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Councilman Carrick-no

Hearing on Budget Amendment #2

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

No comment from the public.

Motion to close: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

#11-129 Self-Examination of the 2011 Budget

Motion: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Councilmembers Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Councilman Carrick-no

#11-130 Adoption of the 2011 Municipal Budget

Motion to adopt: Councilman Freeman

Second: Councilman Manna

Councilman Freeman, Finance chairman, explained that when the 2011 budget process began, we were \$700,000 above the 2% cap which translated into \$289 per average home; at introduction we were \$422,000 above the cap, which equated to \$228 increase; now at the time

of adoption we are \$194,000 below cap, an increase of \$113 per home. Included in this is two furlough days from each of the DPW employees who will still receive their contractual 31/2% increase in salary; borough employees are at a net increase of 0%. The Borough Auditor had told them that 90% municipalities gave no increase last year. Adopting the budget tonight will avoid having to send out estimated tax bills, which would cost \$5,000. Going into next year we are looking at a \$1.1 million increase.

Councilman Carrick stated that the finance committee did a good job but he does not feel it is right that the DPW and municipal employees are giving back while there are others who are not willing to. Last month the police were willing to give up two police officers rather than give back. A union is supposed to be a brotherhood and save each other's jobs. Next year there will be some very tough decisions to make.

Councilman Caspare agreed with Councilman Carrick that the finance committee worked very hard to get to the figure of \$113 increase per home. He also agreed that it is not fair that two groups gave up something and the larger group did not. He concerned about the \$5,000 cost of estimated tax bills if the budget is not adopted. He is torn between voting yes or no on the budget.

Mayor McHale recommended that the Governing Body consider going out for referendum in November to exceed the 2% cap to ensure their comfort level.
Roll call vote: Councilmembers Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes
Councilman Carrick-no

ORDINANCES

Second Reading

#1430 Amendment of Chapter 21-7, One Hour Parking to Two Hour Parking on Grant Avenue
Motion to waive formal reading: Councilwoman Zamechansky

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Motion to close: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Roll call vote: Councilmembers Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

#1431 Bond Ordinance providing for Department of Public Works garage site improvements in and by the Borough of Dumont, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey; appropriating \$240,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$228,000 bonds or notes of the Borough to finance part of the cost thereof

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Motion to adopt on second reading: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilwoman Zamechansky

Roll call vote: Councilmembers Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

#1432 Bond Ordinance providing for Phase III of Various Storm Sewer System Improvements in and by the Borough of Dumont, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey; appropriating \$230,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$218,500 bonds or notes of the Borough to finance part of the cost thereof

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilwoman Zamechansky

All in favor.

Mayor McHale explained that this ordinance addresses flood control in the White Beeches section of the Borough. The design work and permits will be done so that when financing is available the Borough will be ready to move forward with the project.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Kai Chen, 90 Teak Road, asked if it is customary to have work done in one year and have it paid for in the next year.

Motion to close: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Motion to adopt: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Councilmembers Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Motion to open to the public for general comment: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

1. Kevin Price, 5 Essex Place, questioned the parking restrictions-no parking 9AM-11AM-on Essex near Washington Avenue. He received a parking ticket after living there for eight years.
2. Kai Chen, 90 Teak Road, commented about the parking meter line item in the budget being blank; he was hoping there would be a greater effort by the Chamber of Commerce to offset the expenses of the celebration of public events; he asked the Borough's policy on Code Enforcement-he suggested using Google maps; he asked about the amount spent on telephones; he spoke of the new fileserver and voice over IP and alternate choices.
3. Mary Gilmour, 26 Fleetwood Road, asked about the Borough's shared service status. In corporate America when costs keep rising, budgets are frozen. She stated that when roads are resurfaced, potholes also seem to appear; she encouraged the Borough to insist on repairs when this occurs.

Motion to close: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Mayor McHale stated that the next Mayor and Council meeting was changed from June 21st to Thursday, June 23rd at 6:30PM in Executive Chambers and 7:15PM in Council Chambers due to a conflict with the high school graduation.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC

Municipal Clerk